



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison For Kidnapping Girl in Signal Hill

A Long Beach man was sentenced today to 12 years in state prison after pleading no contest to kidnapping an 8-year-old girl from a park in Signal Hill earlier this year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Robert Sok, 28, entered his plea to one count each of kidnapping and failure to update sex offender registration annually at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch. He also admitted the allegation that the victim was under the age of 14.

Deputy District Attorney Irene Lee said that the girl was walking ahead of her mother and grandmother in a park on Jan. 20 when Sok grabbed her. Sok put his hand over her mouth when the girl began to scream, "Mom, help me!" the prosecutor said.

The mother and grandmother ran after Sok. The grandmother was able to hit Sok with a water bottle two to three times, causing Sok to release the girl. Sok was arrested a short time later.

The case was investigated by the Signal Hill Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.